

Thomas, Jenny

From: Thomas, Jenny
Sent: Thursday, April 04, 2013 6:59 PM
To: Szerlog, Michael; LaCroix, Matthew
Cc: Hunter, Christopher; Evans, David; Kaiser, Russell
Subject: Materials from Native Village of Tyonek//Chuitna Mine
Attachments: letter2epa4-1-13.docx; Maps Distributed Tyonek Meeting 3APR2013.pdf; Letters Distributed Tyonek Meeting 3APR2013.pdf

All –

Please find attached the following materials distributed at yesterday's meeting.

Included in attachment MAPS –

- 1) Map of proposed mine
- 2) Map providing overview of landowners
- 3) Map of Ladd Landing structure
- 4) Map outlining areas of archaeological significance to the Tribe

Included in attachment LETTERS –

- 1) Letter from AK Office of History and Archaeology to Corps focused on Ch'u'itna Archaeological District concerns
- 2) Letter from NVT to R10 thanking for coordination with Tribe

Also attached (word doc) is a formal request from the tribe for a 404(c) action.

Michael and Matt - You may have received a report-out on the meeting from your colleagues in R10, but just in case you haven't I thought I'd provide a short summary. NVT began the meeting by thanking R10 for their continued coordination with the village and providing a letter recognizing their appreciation.

NVT summarized their concerns that this economic development in the region likely won't benefit the tribe but will permanently affect their land and Native culture. They noted that the Chuitna River is the only healthy river on the West side of Cook Inlet and it supports 5 species of salmon. They asserted the river supports up to 20% of the salmon run in the region in a given year.

They raised concerns with ADEC developing site-specific water quality criteria to allow for discharges with higher metal concentrations resulting from the mine pit dewatering. Additionally, the village recently built a new drinking water treatment plant and they have concerns as to how mining activities could impact their drinking water source.

As reflected in the attached letter, the village formally requested that EPA invoke 404(c) on this project.

Dave and Russ, feel free to add any additional detail.

Because WQS was raised as an area of concern and as I understand it ADEC has begun the process to create these site-specific criteria, Denise asked that we raise this issue with the WQS team at HQ so we ensure that EPA at all levels is engaged.

Dave/Russ/Chris/Michael/Matt – I know you all have been in discussions regarding researching the feasibility of stream restoration in this sort of hydrology and with extensive impacts. I look forward to working with you on that effort! I'd

also like to suggest that we discuss how we best support and coordinate with R10 throughout the NEPA process so that we establish a strong record of our concerns with this project.

Let me know if you have any thoughts or questions.

Jenny

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From: Evans, David
Sent: Thursday, April 04, 2013 8:14 AM
To: Szerlog, Michael; Thomas, Jenny
Cc: Kaiser, Russell
Subject: FW: letter2epa4-1-13 NVT

We'll have Jenny sort through all the handouts we received yesterday and make sure you have all of them – most just in hardcopy.

Dave Evans

David S. Evans, Director
Wetlands Division
Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds
Phone: 202-566-0535

From: Stoner, Nancy
Sent: Wednesday, April 03, 2013 7:16 PM
To: Keehner, Denise; Evans, David; Peck, Gregory
Subject: Fw: letter2epa4-1-13 NVT

Another 404(c) request

From: Rob Rosenfeld
Sent: Wednesday, April 03, 2013 4:50:14 PM
To: Stoddard, Jamey; Stoddard, Jamey; Woods, Jim; Woods, Jim; McLerran, Dennis; Corman, Bicky; Corman, Bicky; McInnis, Marissa; Evans, David; Stoner, Nancy
Subject: letter2epa4-1-13 NVT

Thank you very much for meeting with the Native Village of Tyonek today. Your time, interest, and participation was greatly appreciated.

Attached please find the letter that was distributed at the meeting.

Best wishes

Rob

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